

Appl. Serial No.: 10/678,610
Amendment dated August 18, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 21, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 and 23-25 remain in the application. By this amendment, the limitation of claim 22 has been added to claim 21, and according claim 22 has been canceled. Further, claims 1, 13, 21, and 23-25 have been amended in order to more clearly define applicant's invention. The present application as originally filed supports these amendments. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. §112 Claim Rejections

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite since it does not claim a grid and the Examiner believes that a Bucky not including a grid has not been disclosed. Applicant submits that Figs. 4-6 show a Bucky assembly, wherein a grid of the assembly has not yet been mounted. However, claim 21 has been amended to require a grid in order to expedite prosecution. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §112.

35 U.S.C. §103 Claim Rejections

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,088,427 to Pagano. Claims 21-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pagano in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,980,407 to Hill.

Applicant respectfully submits that Pagano does not disclose, teach, or suggest a Potter-Bucky device having a grid movably supported for reciprocating motion in a second plane, wherein the grid is movable along an axis lying in the second plane; at least one movable cam positioned adjacent the grid and causing reciprocating movement of the grid along the axis in the second plane parallel to the recording medium upon movement of the cam; and a counter-weight movably supported and operatively connected to the grid for reciprocating motion in the second

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plane along the axis in directions opposite the grid, wherein displacement of the center of gravity of the Potter-Bucky device due to movement of the grid is compensated for by the movement and mass of the counter-weight so as to prevent substantial vibration being transmitted from such movement to the radiation image recording apparatus.

In the Pagano reference the counter-weight and the grid are not aligned. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are clearly patentable over the Pagano reference.

Hill does not overcome the deficiencies of the Pagano reference. Hill describes an endless belt 12 for use in operating a variable aperture shutter. Hill, however, does not disclose a Bucky assembly of the type described and recited in claim 21, wherein the grid and counter-weight are adapted, positioned and oriented for reciprocating motion along a shared axis in a plane, and the grid and counter-weight move in opposite directions along the shared axis in the plane when the drive pulley is rotated.

Accordingly, all of the remaining claims, claims 1-21 and 23-25, are believed to be patentable over the Pagano and Hill references.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein, applicant believes that all claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such allowance. If a telephone conference will expedite prosecution of the application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned. If additional fees are required, or otherwise necessary to cover any deficiency in fees already paid, authorization is hereby given to charge our deposit

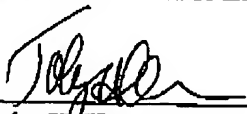
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account no. 50-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

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Toby H. Kusmer, P.C., Reg. No. 26,418
Attorneys for Applicants
28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1775
Telephone: (617) 535-4065
Facsimile: (617) 535-3800